Government have not been considering Indian goods in the most favoured nation list; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government on such indiscriminate view of the Pakistani Government on Indian goods?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Pakistan has not extended MFN status to India. Government have taken up this issue with Pakistan, on several occasions and at various levels. As yet, Pakistan has not responded positively on this issue.

Law and order problem by unlicensed Establishments in National Capital Region

2488. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hotels/restaurants in National Capital territory (Delhi) without a valid licence;

(b) the number of hotels and restaurants in Delhi functioning with temporary licence;

(c) what steps are being taken to regularise their licences;

(d) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to law and order problem created by these unlicensed establishments in the capital; and

(e) what steps are being taken by Government to contain this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. M. KAMSON): (a) Four hundred and Sixty-four hotels/restaurants are running without a valid licence under the Delhi Police Act, 1978 in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(b) and (c) There being presently no Hotel/Restaurant in the National Capital Territory of Delhi which is functioning without a temporary licence, the need for regularisation of any temporary licence does not arise.

(d) and (e) As and when any hotel/restaurant is found running without a valid licence, the Proprietor/owner of the same is prosecuted u/s 28/112 of Delhi Police Act and a request for its closure is made to the concerned court of law.

प्रमुख पत्तनों का विकास करने की योजना

2489. **श्री सोमपाल:** क्या **जल-भूतल परिवहन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार के विचाराधीन देश के विभिन्न पत्तनों का विकास करने की कोई योजना है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार विभिन्न पत्तन न्यासों को स्वायत्तशासी निगमों के रूप में बदलने और उन्हें बाजार से पूंजी उठाने की अनुमति देने पर विचार कर रही है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इसके पीछे क्या तर्क है और इस प्रयोजन के लिए कब तक कानूनी तथा अन्य आवश्यक कार्यवाही की जाएगी?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम० राजशेखर मूर्ति): (क) और (ख) जी हां। महापत्तनों का विकास एक सतत् प्रक्रिया है। इस प्रयोजनार्थ आठवी पंच वर्षीय योजना 1992—97 के दौरान 2984 करोड़ रु० का परिव्यय उपलब्ध करवाया गया है।

(ग) जी नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Preservation of Biodiversity

2490. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article in the Hindustan Times of 2nd December, 1995 in "Preserving biodiversity" the first ever comprehensive Report on the earth's biodiversity, issued by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) in Washington;

(b) whether it is a fact that the loss of biological resources and diversity is posing threat to humanity's food supplies and sources of wood, medicines and energy, according to the Report; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government and steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has released a report captioned "Global Biodiversity Assessment."

(b) Discussing the importance of biodiversity for humankind, the report observes that loss of biological resources and their diversity threatens humankind's food supplies, sources of wood, medicines, energy etc.

(c) The Government recognises the importanc of biological diversity. The programmes initiated by the Government for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity include establishment of a Protected Area Network, setting up of Biosphere Reserves, conservation of fragile ecosystems such as wetlands, mangroves, coral reefs and conservation of forests along with afforestation of degraded areas to meet the subsistence needs of the people.

Notices to Polluting Industries of Delhi

2491. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supeme Court has recently directed the Delhi Government to issue notices to over 5000 polluting Industries in 22 locations in the National Capital Region for their non-cooperation in installing the pollution control devices and contributing funds for the effluent treatment plants; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the industries involved and the steps taken against these industries for the violation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed the Delhi Pollution Control Committee to publish general notice in respect of 28 industrial areas asking the industries to show cause why they should not be closed and subjected to pollution fines as they are neither setting up the pollution control devices nor ready to set-up the combined Effluent Treatment Plants. Accordingly, a list of 399 such industrial units to whom closure notices had been issued by the Delhi Pollution Control Committee was furnished to the Supreme Court. The Supeme Court has imposed a fine of Rs. 10,000/- on 151 industries out of the list of 399 industrial units who have not installed pollution control devices. The industries are to pay the fine within two weeks from the date of order i.e. December 6, 1995, failing which the Deputy Commissioner, Delhi shall implement closure of these units. The Supreme Court has further directed these units to install pollution control devices within 6 weeks. These industries include textile dyeing units, foundries, electroplating units, anodising plants, hot-mix plants, oil mills and hotels.

Safety Norms for off-shore Oil Exploration

2492. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the entry of private oil companies in upstream activities in India, there is a proposal under consideration of Government to tighten the safety norms for offshore oil exploration and development activities;

(b) whether Government are also collaborating with the norwegian Petroleum Directorate to share norway's expertise and data in offshore oil and gas exploration in order to generate similar practice in this country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the benefits which will accrue to the country from Norwegian practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Benefits of collabortion with the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate will accrue in the areas of developing capabilities in petroleum safety management systems, exploration and exploitation activities and their monitoring. It will also help in the development of regulatory mechanisms, building of an Exploration and Production data archive and data management systems pertaining to the upstream Sector.